

Amdt. dated March 2, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 2, 2005

Serial No. 09/591,035
Docket No. STL920000063US1
Firm No. 0054.0047

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 9, 15, 17, and 23 have been amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Mirza for holding a telephone interview with their representative, Janaki K. Davda, on Tuesday, February 28, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. (EST). The 112 rejection of claim 1 was discussed. No agreement was reached. Also, claim 1 and the Helgeson patent application were discussed. Applicants' representative submitted that the Helgeson patent application "is predominantly web-enabled, which extends its use to all industry professionals connected to the Internet" (Paragraph 42), and that the Helgeson patent application has no need to perform the processing of claim 1 to enable a transaction-based mainframe application that is unable to process transactions over the web to process transactions over the web. No agreement was reached.

The Examiner rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicants respectfully traverse, but have amended claim 1 to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Helgeson et al. (U.S. 2002/0073236, hereinafter "Helgeson"), and in view of O'Brien et al. (U.S. 6,351,776, hereinafter "O'Brien"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

By use of the present invention, a transaction-based mainframe application is adapted to process transactions over a network such as the World Wide Web (web). The transaction-based mainframe application is adapted by scanning the source code of the transaction-based

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mainframe application to identify the transaction and the related information, wherein the transaction-based mainframe application is unable to process transactions over a World Wide Web (Web) (e.g., Specification, page 10, lines 23-26); storing the related information identified in the scan of the source code in a database, hereinafter identified information; extracting parameter definitions describing a communication of information by the transaction from the database, hereinafter extracted information; identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced; displaying the transaction and a subset of the related information and extracted information; allowing a user to select the transaction; and, using the identified information and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool by generating a communication area file that may be parsed by the connector building tool to build a connector and a documentation file that provides documentation about the communication area file, wherein the connector enables the transaction-based mainframe application to process transactions over the web by enabling the transactions to be passed from a web application server to the transaction-based mainframe application (e.g., Specification, page 10, line 28 - page 11, line 1; page 12, line 27 - page 13, line 11; page 14, lines 13-14; FIG. 1; FIG. 3, block 345).

Thus, the claimed invention is directed towards analyzing a transaction-based mainframe application in order to build a connector to adapt the transaction-based mainframe application to process transactions over a network such as the Web. That is, the claimed invention is directed to retrofitting/adapting existing mainframe applications to support customer to business transactions (C2B) as well as business to business transactions (B2B) on the web (e.g., Specification, page 3, lines 11-13). To enable current mainframe applications and data stores to support such transactions, the claimed invention provides a technique to pass transactions from web application servers to back end applications residing on the mainframe (e.g., Specification, page 3, lines 15-17).

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The Helgeson patent application translates data from a system specific local format to a generic interchange format object, and vice versa, with predefined stylesheets using generic components and system specific service components that utilize a native application programming interface of the specific local system. (Abstract). Moreover, the Helgeson patent application describes a system that "is predominantly web-enabled, which extends its use to all industry professionals connected to the Internet". (Paragraph 42). The Helgeson patent application describes a Platform that "provides a unified set of interfaces, an application Framework, Web-application development, external connectivity development, and information distribution development." (Paragraph 42). The Platform model 501 defines applicants' application platform and includes a Web Development Kit (WDK) server that generates web content (Paragraphs 63-65). The Helgeson patent application describes a three-tier model in which a tier 1 web user is connected electronically to a tier 2 web server which is connected to a tier 3 applications server. (Paragraph 214; FIG. 3). The tier 3 applications server is expanded in FIG. 4 to show servers, including an Interface server (also designated as the WDK), which communicates through a web server via the internet to web clients via the HTML protocol and which contains mechanisms to manipulate various kinds of display style sheets, to generate and execute web links, . . . (Paragraph 215; FIG. 4). Because the Helgeson patent application is predominantly web-enabled, there is no need to enable a transaction-based mainframe application that is not originally designed to process transactions over the web to do so.

Moreover, in the Helgeson patent application describes that its system is, and will be, able to interface with any other industry standard software programs (Paragraph 41). Thus, the Helgeson patent application again has no need to perform the claimed processing that creates a connector to enable the transaction-based mainframe application to process transactions over the web by enabling the transactions to be passed from a web application server to the transaction-based mainframe application.

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The O'Brien patent describes a user interface and a means by which users can establish, use, and maintain files on the Internet in a manner remote from their local computers (Abstract). With the O'Brien patent, the client may be either a web- or browser-based application, so there is no need to use the identified information and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool by generating a communication area file that may be parsed by the connector building tool to build a connector and a documentation file that provides documentation about the communication area file, wherein the connector enables the transaction-based mainframe application to process transactions over the web. Additionally, the O'Brien tool refers to a connection pool, which is a pool of data connections. Such data connections do not teach or suggest the claimed connector.

The Helgeson patent application and O'Brien patent, either alone or together, do not teach or suggest processing the source code of a transaction-based mainframe application that is not originally designed to process transactions over the web to output data in a form compatible with a connector building tool by generating a communication area file that may be parsed by the connector building tool to build a connector and a documentation file that provides documentation about the communication area file, wherein the connector enables the transaction-based mainframe application to process transactions over the web by enabling the transactions to be passed from a web application server to the transaction-based mainframe application.

Dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-24 incorporate the language of independent claims 1, 9, and 17 and add additional novel elements. Therefore, dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-24 are not taught or suggested by the Helgeson patent application or the O'Brien patent, either alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claims 1, 9, and 17.

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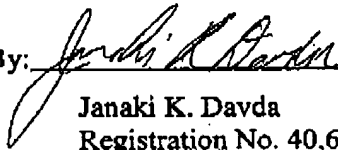
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Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicants submit that the pending claims 1-24 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0460.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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By: 
Janaki K. Davda
Registration No. 40,684

Please direct all correspondences to:

David Victor
Konrad Raynes & Victor, LLP
315 South Beverly Drive, Ste. 210
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Tel: 310-553-7977
Fax: 310-556-7984